

HA-1807
1925
Bel Air
Private

The Pyle House, 329 Webster St., faces north on an open lot in Ingleside. The 3 bay bungalow is one of 3 in the block, all slightly different. The house is clad in wood shingles in the second story and clapboard in the first. The front porch is shingled half-way up, with 4 simple round posts seated on the balustrade and carrying the porch roof. Entry is in the center bay. Its wide shed dormers, front and rear, are also clapboard. A recent large 2 story addition to the rear extends past the plane of the west elevation and wraps around to the rear ending in a back porch, its cladding and roof lines echoing that of the main block.

The early 1920s saw three new additions to the Town of Bel Air: Fulford Park (1922), Ingleside (1923), and Kenmore (1924). In each case the lots were sold at auction. Ingleside was subdivided by J. Edwin Webster and named for his home to the north. On 17 October 1925, The Aegis announced that Willard Pyle had begun a house in Ingleside. Since contractor Harry Orsburn actually still owned the property, one assumes he built the house that he conveyed to Pyle in 1925. It is a roomy bungalow typical of the sort being built in Ingleside at the time. Mrs. Pyle grew flowers for the market on the large lot to the east.

HA-1807
Pyle House
Bel Air, Harford Co.

FRAMEWORK FOR IDENTIFYING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

3. Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:

 x 11. Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

 12. Modern Period 1930 - present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme:

2. Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community
Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Architecture

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function and Use: Private Residence

Known Design Source: unknown

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC SITES

Survey No. AN-1807

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Pyle House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 329 Webster St. n/a not for publication

city, town Bel Air vicinity of congressional district 3rd

state MD county Harford

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. and Mrs. Michael Blum

street & number 329 Webster St. telephone no.: 879-8761

city, town Bel Air state and zip code MD 21014

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse liber 1257

street & number folio 305

city, town Bel Air state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. AA-1807

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing resource count: one

The Pyle House, 329 Webster St., faces north on an open lot in Ingleside. Built in 1924-1925, the 3 bay bungalow is one of 3 in the block, all slightly different. The house is clad in wood shingles in the second story and clapboard in the first. The front porch is shingled half-way up, with 4 simple round posts seated on the balustrade and carrying the porch roof. Entry is in the center bay. Its wide shed dormers, front and rear, are also clapboard. A recent large 2 story addition to the rear extends past the plane of the west elevation and wraps around to the rear ending in a back porch, its cladding and roof lines echoing that of the main block.

Windows are paired 3/1 double-hung sash with some exceptions. Triple casements occur in the north bay of the west elevation and light the stairs.

The original front door of 2 long panels topped by 6 small windows leads directly to the living room, which occupies the front of the house. The straight run, open string staircase with square newel and balusters rises along the west wall. To the rear in the east through French doors is the dining room. The kitchen/family room addition is to the west. Woodwork is plain, and there are hardwood floors. Downstairs is a club basement. Upstairs are 3 bedrooms plus a master bedroom and bath in the addition.

8. Significance

Survey No. HA-1807

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1925 Builder/Architect Harry Orsburn

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The early 1920s saw three new additions to the Town of Bel Air: Fulford Park (1922), Ingleside (1923), and Kenmore (1924). In each case the lots were sold at auction. Ingleside was subdivided by J. Edwin Webster and named for his home to the north.

On 17 October 1925, The Aegis announced that Willard Pyle had begun a house in Ingleside. Since contractor Harry Orsburn actually still owned the property, one assumes he built the house that he conveyed to Pyle in 1925. It is a roomy bungalow typical of the sort being built in Ingleside at the time. The only exterior change has been the two story addition projecting to the west and rear, built by the current owners, the Blums. It contains an enlarged kitchen and, upstairs, a master bedroom and bath.

Willard Pyle worked for the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company. In 1944 the Pyles separated, and Blanche got the house. Either they divorced or he died, because she married Lester C. Pyle, said to be a cousin of Willard, probably in 1964 when she added his name to the deed. Mrs. Pyle grew flowers for the cut flower market on the parcel east of the house, lots 72-76. Mrs. Pyle outlived her second husband and eventually became disabled. The side parcel was sold to help pay for her nursing home.

The current owner, Michael Blum, has a public relations agency, Blum & Associates.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. HA-1207

Harford County Land Records.
Site visit, 25 April 1993.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Bel AirQuadrangle scale 1:24,000UTM References ☐ do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 386 in the Town of Bel Air, 100' x 113'.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Dr. Marilyn M. Larew		
organization		date	7-15-93
street & number	RD 1, Box 219	telephone	717-993-3557
city or town	New Park	state	PA 17352

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
(301) 269-1000

HA-1807
Pyle House
329 Webster St.
Bel Air, MD 21014

owner: Michael Blum

1257/305 16 Jan 1985
Blanche E. Barrow Pyle
to
Michael Isaac Blum and Annette Alger Cameron Blum, wife
\$65,000
lots 67-71 in block A of Ingleside.
Plat in 183/202, 203. Property of J. Edwin Webster.
April 1923
Blanche E. Barrow Pyle is also Blanche E. Pyle. Lester
C. Pyle died 8 Feb 1972

641/553 13 Feb 1964
Zero, Inc.
to
Blanche E. Pyle and Lester C. Pyle
lots 67-76 in block A, Ingleside

641/551 13 Feb 1964
Blanche E. Pyle and Lester C.
to
Zero Inc.

284/118 14 June 1944
E. Mildred Gray, unmarried
to
Blanche E. Pyle
lots 67-76 in block A, Ingleside

284/117 14 June 1944
Willard D. Pyle and Blanche E.
to
E. Mildred Gray
lots 67-76 in block A, Ingleside

straw deeds because of separation agreement the next
day, 284/119, 15 June 1944.

193/325 3 July 1925
Mammie [sic] A. Wilkinson, spinster
to
Willard D. Pyle and Blanche E.
lots 74-76 in block A, Ingleside

191/308 24 Jan 1925
 Harry W. Orsburn and Fern A.
 to
 Willard D. Pyle and Blanche E.
 lots 67-73 in block A, Ingleside

181/490 12 May 1923
 J. Edwin Webster and wife
 to
 Harry W. Orsburn and Fern A.
 lots 67-73 in block A, Ingleside
 with restrictive covenants, see below

186/485 and
 12 May 1923
 J. Edwim Webster and wife
 to
 Mammie A. Wilkinson
 with the restrictive covenants: no house on Conowingo
 Rd. (Hickory) shall cost less than \$4000 and on other
 streets of Ingleside, \$3000. Set back on Conowingo is
 35 ft., and 30 ft. on other streets. No African-
 Americans except servants. No commercial use for
 25 years. Webster owned Ingleside.

HA-1807
Pyle House
Bel Air, Harford Co.
Bel Air Quadrangle





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329 WEBSTER ST.
BEL AIR



